

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (new):

A pivoting electromagnetic pickup for a stringed instrument comprising:
an elongated support structure, said elongated support structure being attached in a pivotal relationship to said stringed instrument at a pivot point, restraining said elongated support structure to a curvilinear path, said stringed instrument having a body and a plurality of strings, said strings being offset and substantially parallel to said body, said elongated support structure being mounted substantially between said body and said strings;
an electromagnetic pickup, said electromagnetic pickup being fixed to said elongated support structure between said strings and said elongated support structure, said electromagnetic pickup being of sufficient length to be in continual electromagnetic communication with said strings throughout said curvilinear path, said elongated support structure and electromagnetic pickup forming a pickup assembly;
a pivoting means, said pivoting means securing in a rotatable relationship said elongated support structure to said body, said pivoting means engaging said elongated support structure substantially near a terminus, said pivoting means providing an axis of rotation for said curvilinear path of said pickup assembly;
an angular position locking means, said angular position locking means being manually engaged at any position along said curvilinear path, said angular position locking means substantially preventing rotation of said elongated support structure from a set angular position, said angular position locking means allowing free rotation of the pickup assembly in a disengaged state;

wherein said pivot point is located on said body at a sufficiently distant point from an area immediately beneath said strings to allow said pickup to effectively transition to produce sul ponticello and sul tasto tone qualities;
and wherein said pickup assembly can be set to an angular position before or during play to achieve a desired musical effect.

Claim 7 (new):

The pivoting electromagnetic pickup of claim 6 wherein said pickup assembly being mounted within a recess formed in said body, said recess being of sufficient area to accommodate said curvilinear path of said pickup assembly without substantial mechanical interference of said pickup assembly, said recess being of sufficient depth to prevent substantial contact between said pickup assembly and said strings.

Claim 8 (new):

The pickup assembly of claim 7 wherein said recess defines a boundary, said boundary restricting said curvilinear path to a specified sector.

Claim 9 (new):

The pivoting electromagnetic pickup of claim 6 wherein said angular position locking means is a nut threadably engaged to said pivoting means, said nut frictionally engaging said pickup assembly.

Claim 10 (new):

The angular position locking means of claim 9 wherein the torque of said nut is adjusted to vary the resistance to the rotation of the pickup assembly.

Claim 11 (new):

The angular position locking means of claim 9 wherein said nut is a knurled nut.

Claim 12 (new):

The pivoting electromagnetic pickup of claim 6 wherein said curvilinear path is an arc.

Claim 13 (new):

A pivoting electromagnetic pickup for a stringed instrument comprising:
an elongated support structure, said elongated support structure being attached in a pivotal relationship to said stringed instrument at a pivot point, restraining said elongated support structure to a curvilinear path, said stringed instrument having a body and a plurality of strings, said strings being offset and substantially parallel to said body, said elongated support structure being mounted substantially between said body and said strings;
an electromagnetic pickup, said electromagnetic pickup being fixed to said elongated support structure between said strings and said elongated support structure, said electromagnetic pickup being of sufficient length to be in continual electromagnetic communication with said strings throughout said curvilinear path, said elongated support structure and electromagnetic pickup forming a pickup assembly;
a pivoting means, said pivoting means securing in a rotatable relationship said elongated support structure to said body, said pivoting means engaging said elongated support structure substantially near a terminus, said pivoting means providing an axis of rotation for said curvilinear path of said pickup assembly;
wherein said curvilinear path is generally divergent from the path of the strings as said curvilinear path moves from a bridge to a neck of said stringed instrument, a gap formed between said strings and said electromagnetic pickup increasing in width as said pickup assembly is moved along said curvilinear path from said bridge to said neck;
and wherein a diminution in volume caused by a reduced vibrational energy exerted by said strings in proximity of said bridge is counteracted to maintain constant volume by positioning said electromagnetic pickup increasingly closer to

said strings as said pickup assembly is moved towards said bridge;
and wherein an augmentation in volume caused by an increased vibrational
energy exerted by said strings in proximity of said neck is counteracted to
maintain constant volume by positioning said electromagnetic pickup increasingly
further from said strings as said pickup assembly is moved towards said neck.